

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 NEA-10

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2512

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN NEW YORK 02868

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNSC

SUBJECT: SECURITY COUNCIL REFORM: PROPOSED MINISTERIAL-

- LEVEL SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING

1. FOLLOWING COMPLETION OF OTHER BUSINESS, SECURITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT BARTON (CANADA) JULY 12 REPORTED TO THE OTHER WESTERN REPRESENTATIVES ON HIS SOUNDINGS WITH MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL CONCERNING THE PROPOSAL OF A MINISTERIAL-LEVEL COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD IN NEW YORK IN SEPTEMBER OR EARLY OCTOBER. BARTON HAD CONDUCTED THESE INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE WESTERN FIVE WITH A VIEW TO CALLING THE COUNCIL TOGETHER INFORMALLY TO DISCUSS THIS PROPOSAL DURING THE CANADIAN PRESIDENCY IN JULY.

2. BARTON SAID ALL MEMBERS EXCEPT THE SOVIET AND THE CHINESE INDICATED VARIOUS DEGREES OF APPROVAL OR ACQUIESCENCE. HE SAID HE ENCOUNTERED NO HOSTILITY TO THE PROPOSAL AND SOME MODERATE ENTHUSIASM. AMBASSADOR RAMPHUL OF MAURITIUS MADE PREDICTABLE GRIMACES ABOUT THE THOUGHT  
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OF HAVING HIS FOREIGN MINISTER SUPERSEDE HIM AGAIN IN THE COUNCIL. AMBASSADOR JAIPAL OF INDIA EXPRESSED GENERAL WILLINGNESS TO WORK WITH THE IDEA AND THOUGHT HIS MINISTER WOULD WISH TO PARTICIPATE. HE SAID HE FULLY UNDERSTOOD THE COMPLICATIONS OF THE SOVIET AND CHINESE ATTITUDES.

3. BARTON SAID THE SOVIETS EXPRESSED SKEPTICISM ABOUT THE VALUE OF THE IDEA. THEY SAID THEY UNDERSTOOD THE THEORY BEHIND IT AND THE OBJECTIVES BEING SOUGHT, BUT THEY WERE CONCERNED ABOUT HAVING THE CHINESE FOREIGN MINISTER PRESENT WITH THEIRS IN AN UNSTRUCTURED DISCUSSION IN THE COUNCIL.

4. THE CHINESE, ACCORDING TO BARTON, REJECTED THIS CONCEPT OF DIPLOMACY COMPLETELY. THEY SAID THEY OF COURSE ARE WILLING TO TALK WITH THEIR FRIENDS AND EXCHANGE VIEWS ON VARIOUS PROBLEMS, BUT THE NOTION OF AN OPEN-ENDED DISCUSSION INVOLVING THE SOVIETS WAS UNACCEPTABLE TO THE CHINESE.

5. AMBASSADOR BARTON SAID HE TOLD BOTH THE CHINESE AND THE SOVIETS HE WOULD BE PURSUING HIS INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS WITH THE MEMBERS AND MAY CALL FOR INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS OF THE COUNCIL AS A WHOLE SOMETIME LATER THIS MONTH. BARTON TOLD THE WESTERN REPRESENTATIVES THAT, UNLESS THERE WERE SOME OBJECTIONS, HE WAS INCLINED TO PROCEED WITH THE PLAN TO CALL FOR INFORMAL COUNCIL DISCUSSION OF THIS PROPOSAL. HE SAID HE WOULD ASK OTTAWA FOR INSTRUCTIONS TO THIS EFFECT.

6. AMBASSADOR RICHARD OF THE UK COMMENTED THAT HE DID NOT SEE WHY THE REST OF THE WORLD SHOULD BE FORCED TO FOREGO DISCUSSIONS OF ANY IDEAS JUST BECAUSE THE SOVIET

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UNION AND THE PRC FIND IT DIFFICULT TO LIVE TOGETHER. HE WENT ON TO SPECULATE THAT IF THE SECURITY COUNCIL DISCUSSION OF THIS PROPOSAL ENDED UP WITH ONLY THE SOVIETS AND THE CHINESE IN OPPOSITION, IT MIGHT BE A SIGNIFICANT PLUS FOR WESTERN INTERESTS IN THE COUNCIL. LEONARD

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## Message Attributes

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